



## **Notice of Closure** *Pilchuck Forest*

**DNR-managed land in the Pilchuck Forest is permanently closed to all motorized vehicles effective November 15, due to public safety and environmental concerns.**

The Pilchuck Forest is located in Snohomish County, about 10 miles east of Lake Stevens (see map below).

The decision to close Pilchuck Forest to motorized use is a result of growing concern over impacts to public safety, water quality, and resources.

The area is part of the watershed that supplies drinking water to the City of Snohomish. Since the Pilchuck area is managed as a working forest, damage to the soil, logging roads, and trees impacts DNR's ability to protect trust resources.

Public safety is another issue affecting the decision to close. Heavy and escalating ORV use has resulted in increasing numbers of calls involving serious injury and even fatalities; county law enforcement and emergency response officials have expressed serious concerns regarding public safety.

### **Other ORV Recreation Opportunities**

For ORV riders, 400 miles of ORV trails, nine developed ORV areas, dispersed multiple-use trails, and a number of roads are available on state lands. In Northwest Washington, DNR manages the Walker Valley ORV area, centrally located about an hour from both Pilchuck and North Fork.

Walker Valley is a DNR-managed ORV area with 36 miles of trails. Located off Highway 9 near Lake Cavanaugh, it is open year-round.

Other areas for ORV riding on DNR-managed land include the Tahuya and Capitol Forest. For more information, send e-mail to [orv\\_comments@wadnr.gov](mailto:orv_comments@wadnr.gov), or call 360-856-3500.

### **Maps**

[http://www.dnr.wa.gov/htdocs/adm/comm/nr05\\_134\\_orvprmap.jpg](http://www.dnr.wa.gov/htdocs/adm/comm/nr05_134_orvprmap.jpg)  
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